

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18 as follows:

It is an object of the present invention to ~~provide an ideal artificial bone material which promotes osteogenesis by combining β-TCP with a cultured marrow cell solve~~ the problems in the conventional technology.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 23 as follows:

An artificial bone material ~~according to claim 1~~ includes a porous ceramic consisting of β-tricalcium phosphate, and a marrow cell incorporated in the porous ceramic.

Delete the paragraphs beginning at page 5, lines 2, 5, 10, 14, 17, and 21.

Add the following new paragraph at page 6, after line 4:

The other objects, features and advantages of the present invention are specifically set forth in or will become apparent from the following detailed descriptions of the invention.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 1 as follows:

Combining in addition to the cultured cell, a cell growth factor that contributes to osteogenesis can accomplish a more preferable osteogenesis. For example, cell growth factors that contribute to osteogenesis, such as BMP (bone morphogenetic protein), FGF (fibroblast growth factor), TGF-β (transforming growth factor-β), IGF (insulin-like growth factor) and PDGF (platelet-derived growth factor), can be adsorbed to the material to ensure the osteogenesis.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 3 as follows:

[[()]]Example 1[()]]

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17 as follows:

[[()]]Second Example 2[()]]

Delete the paragraph beginning and ending at page 11, line 2.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 11 as follows:

Thereafter, a bone marrow fluid taken from a thigh bone of a Fisher rat was incubated as described above, inoculated onto a block consisting of a β -TCP porous ceramics, incubated for 2 weeks. The block was implanted subcutaneously into another Fisher rat, and isolated after 3 weeks. The isolated implant was examined by HE (hematoxylin-eosin) staining, which revealed satisfactory osteogenesis.